

SVARC Monthly Newsletter

April 2021

Seaway Valley Amateur Radio Club

Next Club Meeting: Wednesday, April 28th, 2021

Virtual meeting on repeater—VE3PGC 443.650 and EchoLink until further notice.

Time: 19:00h (07:00 PM)

Guest Speaker: Cancelled until further notice

*Deadline for newsletter submissions is **ONE** week prior to the next meeting.*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Larry Giguere (VA3RSQ)

PRESIDENTS LETTER APRIL 2021

Well here are in April already and no signs of Covid disappearing in the near future. Camping season begins in May and I am sure all us campers are hoping it wont delay the opening of the many campsites that we attend.

It looks like our face to face meetings will be put off for awhile longer. I hope that everyone is being safe and staying at home as much as possible and maintaining a safe distance when out and about. The vaccinations here in Cornwall are scheduled at the Benson Centre and at Shoppers Drug Mart and at the Freshco Pharmacy. Be sure to register in advance as most of them are full.

Not much else to report. Our usual events we do for the community seem to be put on virtual only thanks to Covid. If anyone has a presentation they would like to do during our meetings please let me know. There are a couple of ideas floating around but no one has come forth with the willingness to do them.

Weekly SVARC VHF/UHF Net:

Monday on VE3SVC (147.180+ MHz; CTCSS 110.9 Hz) at 7:00 PM local time, followed by a 70 CM net on VE3PGC (443.650+ MHz. CTCSS 110.9 Hz.)

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Seaway Valley Amateur Radio Club

4672 O'Keefe Road
St. Andrews West, ON
K0C2A0

www.svarc.ca

SVARC Executive 2020—2021

- **President:** Larry Giguere (VA3RSQ)
- **Vice President:** Doug Pearson (VE3HTR)
- **Secretary:** Chris Lauzon (VA3CRR)
- **Treasurer:** Elizabeth Halliwell (VE3EZH)
- **Technical Consultant:** Doug Pearson
- **Club Membership:** Elizabeth Halliwell
- **Net Manager:** Tom Todd (VA3KD)
- **ARES Coordinator:** Earle DePass (VE3IMP)
- **Editor/Publisher:** Murray MacDonnell (VE3XLJ)

The Seaway Valley Amateur Radio Club operates a number of repeaters in Cornwall and Area. VE3SVC is a VHF Yaesu FM only repeater operating at 147.180 + and a tone of 110.9 Hz. On UHF, VE3PGC, a Yaesu C4FM Fusion repeater with wide area coverage, is located at Bonville. It operates at 443.650 + and a tone of 110.9 Hz. For other repeaters see the Repeater Page at SVARC.ca



Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is composed of certified Radio Amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes.

Upcoming Events

A listing of repeaters that are easily accessed from the Cornwall area are on our Club page.

It can be found at..

<https://www.svarc.ca>

Also, check out the “Swap” page!



The Seaway Valley Amateur Radio Club is a proud Radio Amateurs of Canada Affiliated Club.

The SVARC Repeater reports are available on the club website under “Area Repeater List”

<https://www.svarc.ca/>

From the Editor - Murray MacDonnell (VE3XLJ)

Dear Fellow Hams..

Snow??? April 21st? Say it ain't so! On the bright side, It can only get better from here!

Well, World Amateur Radio Day on the 18th has come and gone. I hope you attempted to make contact with some RAC stations and other stations on the bands which BTW, were terrible! I got lucky and made an early morning contact on 40M with VO1RAC in NF.

Thanks to all who sent me in articles and pictures for this month's Newsletter. I know all the other members are appreciative and I heard a comment from a Ham that he likes the local content we are able to assemble. Keep up the good work!

Since no Ham Bio's were sent in this month, I took the liberty of including my own along with a special QSL card I received in 1992. I personally have been using FT-8 for a few months, and between SSB and FT-8, I am only two States shy of achieving WAS (Are there ANY Hams in South Dakota??)..Also if anyone hears Hawaii on SSB, please call me!

There is a submission, which I think will be first of many, from Leonard, VE3OLB, on the digital mode that is near and dear to his heart. Keep us educated Leonard! Art has sent us some of his special cards this month as well..

Also, there is a Special Bulletin from RAC for those operating HF! **Please heed.**

For those who may have forgotten to renew their membership for 2021..or even 2020, **please** contact Elizabeth to make arrangements for payment. The Club still needs an income stream for insurances and to maintain an equipment fund. If you are NOT a Member, why not? I'm sure the Executive would welcome new members during Covid ;)

That's about it for now.. Again thanks for your submissions and send me something for the next Newsletter. It is our connection to others in this time of forced solitude.

Now, to start my taxes :)

'73
Murray



Agenda
General Monthly Meeting
April 28th, 2019
Virtual Meeting on VE3PGC

07:00 PM Meeting starts

Business Arising :

Minutes of last meeting – March 31 2021– Chris (VA3CRR)

Treasurers Report – Elizabeth (VE3EZH)

Net Controllers Report – Tom (VA3KD)

Newsletter Report – Murray (VE3XLJ)

Miscellaneous Reports

 Repeater Report - Doug (VE3HTR)

 Web Report – Ed (VE3EAH)

 ARES Report – Earle (VE3IMP)

New Business

Discussion on doing a simplex test in case our repeater system goes down.

Presentation:

 Tentative “A discussion on Yaesu Wires X”

Upcoming Events

None at present time

Adjournment:

Date, time and place of next meeting:

 Wednesday, May 26 2021 onVE3PGC.

 Virtual Meetings until further notice.

SEAWAY VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.

4672 O'Keefe Road

St. Andrews West, Ontario, K0C 2A0



Minutes of the General Meeting held at 7:00PM, March 31, 2021

Via RF Due to COVID -19

Present

Members attended this meeting: 13 members: Larry Giguere, President (VA3RSQ), Doug Pearson, Vice President (VE3HTR), Elizabeth Halliwell, Treasurer (VE3EZH), Chris Lauzon, Secretary (VA3CRR), Ed Halliwell (VE3EAH), Murray MacDonnell, Newsletter (VE3XLJ), Joseph Tondreau (VA3JHT), Tom Todd (VA3KD), Dean Brush (VA3BS), Gilbert Boudreault (VE3CFS), Jim Richardson (VE3AFV), Roger Belanger (VA3GBV), Leonard Boileau (VE3OLB)

Opening

SVARC President Larry Giguere called meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Old Business

Review and approval of the minutes from our previous Meeting of February 24, 2021. The Minutes were read by Chris. Motion to approve by Roger and seconded by Gilbert, carried.

Reports

Treasurer's Report:

Elizabeth reported that there was no change from last month.

Monday Night Net:

Tom reported for the Month of February we had 61 check in's on VE3SVC, 59 on VE3PGC and 23 on DMR, 9 on VE3VSW for a total of 152.

Newsletter Report:

Murray says keep up the good work with submissions.

Technical Report:

Doug stated the repeater report was updated on the website. The Chesterville repeater is no more. VSW has a new frequency, 443.000 Mhz, + offset, 110.9 Hz Tone. 220Mhz repeater now has an ident & beacon. Dstar repeater needs internet cable extended.

ARES Report:

Earle was not available.

Website update:

Site has activity, visit stats are viewable at the bottom of each page.

50/50 Draw:

No draw due to RF meeting.

New Business

1. Elizabeth Halliwell's (VE3EZH) name was missing from the "Operators" section of Earles ARES writeup, that was published in the March 2021 edition of the SVARC newsletter. The total should be nine operators.
2. Roger inquired about the status of the IRLP node. There doesn't seem to be much interest.

Presentation:

None due to COVID-19

Upcoming Events

April 18, 2021 RAC "Get on the Air on World Amateur Radio Day".

Meeting Adjourned:

Motioned by Larry at 7:18 PM

Next meeting:

To be held April 28, 2021 on VE3PGC at 7:00 PM. Minutes recorded by Chris Lauzon (VA3CRR)

A submission by Art, VE3AIH

I have been a ham for 60 years, first licensed in Feb 1961 in Montreal, where I grew up and attended McGill University. I have held 4 calls as I changed locations several times to pursue career goals and changes in lifestyle.

Calls I have held:

VE2BHH 1961-67

VE6AHH 1967-86

VE2AHH 1986-2014

VE3AIH 2014- SK

While the calls usually reflected my initials, I do not in fact have a middle name.

From 1978 to 1995, I was very active on satellites. starting with the low earth orbit RS-1, RS-2 and Oscar 7. A huge change came in the 1980s when AMSAT launched a high orbit satellite which went out in a "Molnya " orbit. Extending about 35,000 Km at apogee and 1500 KM at perigee. The advantage of the high orbit was that you could have long conversations lasting hours while barely moving your antennas. There was a round table on Oscar 13 daily with stations in 4 continents, all Q- 5 copy at the same time. The disadvantage was you needed a sensitive receiver and often a Gaasfet low noise preamp as well. On transmit, about 1000 watts of EIRP was necessary.

The transmit side was accomplished by an exciter running about 10 watts to a power amplifier to increase to 100 watts output. The antenna had about 10 dB of gain, so that gave you the 1KW necessary. The uplink at 435 Mhz required circular polarization to avoid doppler shift, but I always used vertical polarization, because when the satellite was so far out in the orbit, Doppler shift was minor. But you had to speak slowly and distinctly while using headphones because of the delay in the return signal. CW was impossible because of the delay, but SSB worked well.

Here are some QSL cards from those days.....

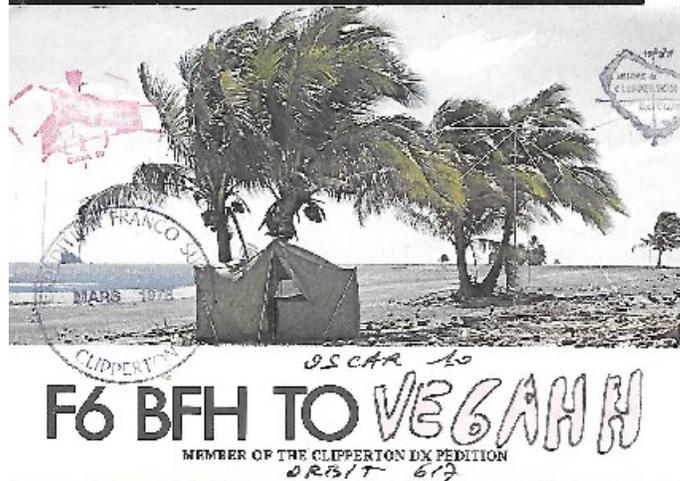
QSL Card Corner

A submission from Art, VE3AIH

The Swiss sure love postage stamps. Recognize the young couple in the upper right corner?

How about the fellow in the lower left holding a mic?

Clipperton DXpedition via Oscar 10 and a Canadair Water bomber on French QSL card from F4APM



AMSAT - OSCAR 7

AMSAT
RADIO AMATEUR SATELLITE CORPORATION
P. O. BOX 27 WASHINGTON, D. C. 20044 U.S.A.

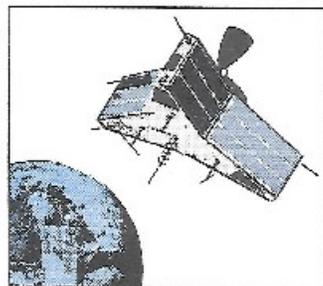


ORBITING SATELLITE CARRYING AMATEUR RADIO



Confirming Reception By
VE6GHH
1B JON 7B

YOU HAVE CONTACTED SLOVENIA



VIA SATELLITE

S54AA

LOC - JN76EG
WAZ ZONE 15
ITU ZONE 28

Franz "LANE" Kokoravec
6400 KRANJ
Vidmarjeva 14
SLOVENIA
EUROPE

DC 8 GP

OP: MARTIN ZANKL
OTH: BUNDESSTR. 22
D-8351 AHOLMING
DOK: U 04



OTL KW: JN 68 LT
Bavarian Country

WAB 9209 DORSET Loc. IO 80 AS

G7AZP

PETER BIGGS
18 DELPH ROAD
MERLEY, WIMBORNE
DORSET, BH21 1RS
ENGLAND.



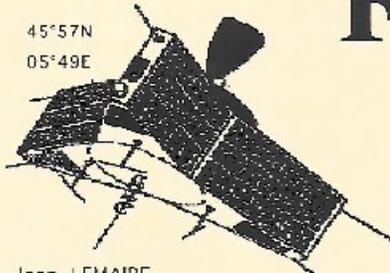
Satellite **A6-13** Mode **B**
Txn fr QSO es 73

AMSAT-UK
No. 4653

RADIO AMATEUR SATELLITE

45°57N
05°49E

F11L



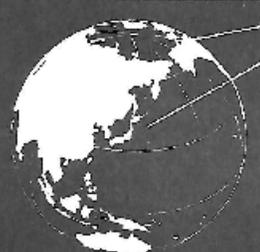

Jean LEMAIRE
44 Grande rue
74910 SEYSSSEL FRANCE

QRA LOCATOR : JN25WX

AMATEUR RADIO STATION

Tokyo Japan

JK IDVX




Tokio Sasaki
4-16-4, Hokusai,
Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 112 Japan

Height 35800km over Tokyo

A submission from Art, VE3AIH

I participated in Winter Field day with some friends in Crawfordville, Florida south of Tallahassee in January 2020, BP (before pandemic).

They set up in the sheriff's emergency communication van. It was parked in the fire training area with a large tower to simulate an apartment fire, a vehicle fire and a propane fire. They also brought a trailer with a crank-up tower and 3 element beam on top. We ran three stations simultaneously on different bands and operated for quite a few hours on the two days of the contest. It was unlike FYBO (freeze your buns off) as it is called in the northern climates.



Here's an interesting one that is rare: VE3BWK/4U

When we visited Israel in 1975, we took a trip up to the northern border on the Golan heights.

We spotted a sign that said CANLOG with a Canadian flag. So we followed the sign and arrived at a Canadian base that provided logistics support for the UN Emergency Force separating the Israeli and Syrian forces, and monitoring the cease fire after the 1973 war.

We arrived at the gate, showed our Canadian passports and asked if we could come in and tour the place. The young enlisted soldier at the gate absolutely refused. We persisted and he eventually called an officer over, who invited us in for a beer. We spent a pleasant hour with some officers talking about their roles and how they like the assignment. Two years later I worked their ham station and received the QSL there was an active ham station there when we visited. I don't think we didn't ask about it at the time.

GOLAN HEIGHTS
VE3BWK/4U

ZONE 20

QSO WITH	DATE	GMT	MHZ.	FREQ	Z-WAT
VE6AHH	21 Feb 78	1715	14	53	25/3

QSL MEMBER: WASHUP
DALE JACKAMAN
CANADIAN CONTINGENT UNITED NATIONS
EMERGENCY FORCE
MIDDLE EAST

Q PSE QSL TNX B- *Dale*

A submission from Art VE3AIH

Here are some interesting QSL's.

The first is my old call from my early ham days in Quebec. I have spoken to Guenter several times on DMR and on the local analog repeaters in Montreal. The second one from Australia. How often do you contact someone with the same suffix as your own control?

The third is a beautiful picture of a Vibroplex keyer paddle. Those paddles go for several hundred dollars today.

VE2BHH




GUENTER BAUER
Montreal, Canada

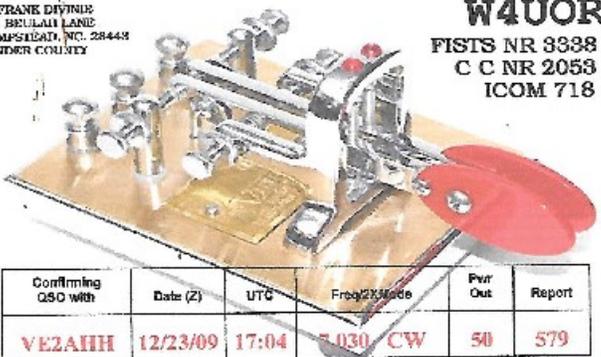
AUSTRALIA
NOEL A. HANSON, 8 RYAN AVENUE, WEST KEMPSEY, N.S.W.

VK2AHH

To VE2BHH confirming out 14 Mc. QSO of 1 May 71
 at 0535 G.M.T. Your Fone/No signals were R. 5 S. 7/8 T. -
 Pse. Jr QSL. BEST 75 Mail

N. FRANK DIVINE
551 BELLAIR LANE
HAMPSHIRE, NC. 28444
TENDER COUNTY

W4UOR
FISTS NR 3338
C C NR 2053
ICOM 718



Confirming QSO with	Date (Z)	UTC	Freq/Mode	Power	Report
VE2AHH	12/23/09	17:04	5.030 CW	50	579

70, FRANK VIBROPLEX IAMBIC PRESENTATION TRX USE QSL

Yaesu System Fusion 2

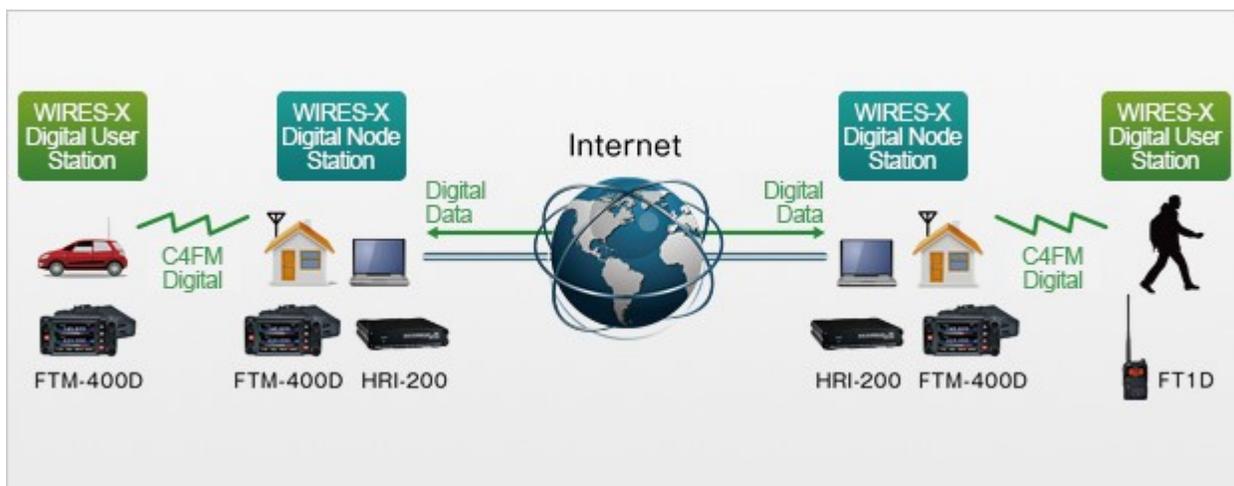
Registration

When and what needs to be registered. First of all a HRI-200 must always be registered. The donor radio connected to it does not have to be registered. Donor radios can be a FTM-100, FTM-300 or FTM-400. Radios that must be registered are radios being used as a PDN (Personal Digital Node). The PDN consists of a radio that is connected to a windows computer with the WIRES-X software installed. Radios that can be used as a PDN are the FT2, & FT3 handheld and the FTM-100 FTM-300 & FTM-400 mobiles. These radios must be registered only if they are used as a PDN. If you access the WIRES-X network through a repeater or a node the radio does not have to be registered. For more information on doing a PDN I would suggest going to the official Yaesu Official You Tube channel Yaesu USA Official - YouTube. John Kruk N9UPC has made several videos that showcase Yaesu products and shows how to setup different features. Keep in mind at the present there is no reason to register the FT70, FT991A, FTM-7250 or any other C4FM radio. There are several good videos on all Yaesu products in the YES (Yaesu Education System).

This article, one of a series, was submitted by Leonard, VE3OLB

What is WIRES-X?

WIRES (Wide-coverage Internet Repeater Enhancement System) is an Internet communication system which expands the range of amateur radio communication. For WIRES-X, an amateur node station connecting to the Internet is used as the access point and connects the wireless communication to the Internet. Users' stations can communicate with other amateur stations all over the world using a node within the radio wave range.



From RAC Ontario Bulletin News

March 28, 2021

Police report white supremacists and conspiracy theorists are attacking cell towers.

According to reports, conspiracy theorists and far-right white supremacist groups are increasingly targeting cellphone towers and other critical infrastructure to incite fear, disrupt essential services, and cause economic damage within the United States and abroad.

An incident was tied to the 5G conspiracy theory, which claims without evidence that the electromagnetic waves put out by 5G towers are harming peoples' immune systems and are responsible for the coronavirus pandemic.

The Intercept obtained a document from the Department of Homeland Security that revealed intelligence reports about vandals targeting cell towers in New York, West Virginia and Tennessee on the day of and before the insurrection on the United States Capitol in January.

Submitted by Art, VE3AIH

RAC Advanced Course for RAC Maple Leaf Operators: Summer 2021

Visit RAC.ca for details



Gold Level



Silver Level



Bronze Level

From: **ARRL Web site** <memberlist@www.arrl.org>

Date: Thursday, April 1, 2021 at 0001Z

Subject: ARLX00 K1JT Announces FT8-V Voice

ZCZC AX0296

QST de W1AW

Special Bulletin

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT, April 1, 2021

To all radio amateurs

SB SPCL ARL ARLX00

ARLX00 K1JT Announces FT8 Voice

Joe Taylor Announces FT-8V Voice

The physics department at Princeton University and Nobel laureate Joe Taylor, K1JT, have jointly announced FT8-V, a new narrowband digital voice addition to the ever popular FT-4/FT-8 series of communication modes.

Hinted at during the recent QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo, Dr. Taylor has announced that the beta version of WSJT-X (3.0) will be released later today.

FT-8 is a foolproof communication system that works extremely well with weak signals and excels during poor HF band conditions. Joe Taylor, K1JT's development team includes some of the best brains in amateur radio communications and this new mode is expected to overtake SSB in a matter of months. *"The concept of 50 Hz wide digital voice signals with 10 Hz spacing will revolutionize our limited HF spectrum,"* he said. QRM will be a thing of the past and radio manufacturers are expected to add the FT8-V mode to their AM/FM/USB/LSB/CW mode selector menus. Commitments have been pledged by Icom, Yaesu, Kenwood and Elecraft.

FT8 was introduced in July 2017 with version 1.8 of the software package WSJT-X. It quickly gained world-wide popularity, by some measures soon accounting for a large fraction of all ham radio activity on the high frequency (HF) bands. The new protocols build on the legacies of JT4, JT9, JT65, and other digital modes pioneered in WSJT-X and its parent program WSJT, going back nearly 20 years. These modes all use time-synchronized transmissions and structured messages with lossless compression of standard call signs, grid locators, and other information into a minimum number of bits. Strong forward error correction (FEC) is an integral part of FT8 and FT8-V (voice).

In his announcement Dr. Taylor provides full documentation of FT8-V voice protocols and outlines how the modes are implemented in WSJT-X v3.0. Detailed performance measurements based on simulations over the additive white Gaussian noise (AWGN) channel and a range of standard International Telecommunications Union (ITU) models for HF propagation are available on the Princeton website.

Submitted by Art, VE3AIH..... ;)

RF exposure requirement

http://hintlink.com/power_density.htm

The FCC in the US has recently announced that amateurs are no longer exempt from permissible radiation exposure requirements. Here is a useful tool that allows you to input your power level, antenna gain, distance from antenna and frequency.

I don't know if we have such RF exposure requirements in Canada, but it showed some interesting results. For my station, running 100 watts into a vertical antenna with a gain of 1 and being about 10 ft from the antenna. I am well below the limits on all HF frequencies. It does rise somewhat when I get into the VHF/UHF bands, but I am still in compliance.

However, since I frequently use my DMR HT on 440 at a distance of 6" from the antenna and a power of 5 watts, I was not in compliance. So I set my power limit at 1 watt. Having a pacemaker just below my left shoulder, I make sure I always use my right hand to hold the HT.

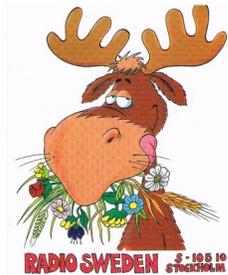
Otherwise the folks at the Ottawa Heart Institute can tell me the exact time and date when I was exposed to electromagnetic radiation, which is not good. I did the same for my Wouxon analog HT, although it's a bother if I ever want to up the power for a short time, such as during a charity race. I have to do it by using the computer program and cable attached to the radio. There seems to be no way to do it directly from the radio. The Tytera radios MD-380 and UV-380 have power levels accessible from the radio itself with a defined push button. The repeaters work fine at the lower power level.

I guess I'm following the old maxim: Use just sufficient power to maintain contact.

Submitted by Art VE3AIH

A Submission from Tom, VA3KD

Like many of us “Hams”, my first introduction to the shortwave bands was the international broadcast stations. For some of us it was our parents or grandparents radio which just happened to have shortwave coverage. For me it was an old analog portable radio that my in-laws had gathering dust down their basement and on which I spent many hours scanning for shortwave stations. I sent the stations signal reports and comments on their programming with the hope of receiving a QSL card in the mail from them. It always amazed me when I received a letter from them which often included a QSL card, program schedule, and if I was lucky, a sticker. Here is a selection of the stickers I received over the years.



I should mention that the one sticker from Aruba was not a shortwave station. My wife and I were on vacation in Aruba and I listened to it on the portable radio that I brought. When I returned home I sent them a signal report and requested a QSL card and sticker if they had any.

What's Up With The Train Whistles?

A few years ago I heard something interesting at a "Ham" radio breakfast. Place hot coffee and bacon in eggs in front of a Ham and in between mouthfuls, talk is likely to vary from antenna projects, to new transceivers and just about anything else. This Ham stated that the long-long-short-long signal that trains use at crossings signifies 'Q' to honour the Queen. I was delighted with the news because it is a quaint idea; both morse code and railroads share a long history; and it shows that morse has at least one last shred of relevance in today's world. (outside of amateur radio) Recently I took to the internet for more information and found what I was looking for on several train related discussion groups.

Mark Smith, founder and the person behind The Man in Seat 61, the best and most complete web site devoted to rail travel anywhere in the world says, "The Queen story sounds apocryphal to me – though Queen Vic's reign up to 1901 would be the right time for railroading in the US to be starting and expanding, so Q ... makes (some) sense."

On the website www.trainsandtravel.com I found, " British ships in the late 1800's blew long-long-short-long on the ship's horn – the letter 'Q' - as a way of letting other maritime traffic know that Queen Victoria was on board and to yield the right of way."

On another message board, Galen F Cook states bluntly, "It's not morse code at all. Railroads have their own distinct signals code."

I also read, "You are referring to International morse code. Railroads use the version called Railroad Morse, American Landline Morse, or simply American Morse. This is the version railroaders used and in American morse 'Q' is dot-dot-dash-dot – the opposite of International morse."

And so the discussion goes on, but who is correct? Since the long-long-short-long signal is used across North America the question needs to be asked, "Why would the Americans choose to honour the Queen in this way?" Also, I can find no record of railroads ever using the letter 'K' (long-short-long) to honour the King. (Edward VII 1901-1910; George V 1910-1936)

Although my brief internet search does not prove the point conclusively either way, I have come to one conclusion – never believe everything you hear at a Ham Radio Breakfast.

Submitted by Tom, VA3KD

Murray MacDonnell Bio, VE3XLJ

Like most of my fellow Hams, I can trace my interest in radio back to my youth listening to a transistor radio, fading AM stations and Short Wave Stations from around the world! There is just something magical about that signal coming through the air, down a wire and then out of the speaker, from stations many 1000's of miles away. My older brothers, who both became Hams with advanced tickets, (as did their spouses), would spend hours listening to the AM radio stations out of New York every evening. They would listen for the "Latest and Biggest" hit songs in the USA and pass them on to my two Uncles who ran a radio and TV repair shop and sold records as a sideline. That way the local "Record Shop" always had the first Hot records in the area.

I remember watching my uncles repairing the radios and TV's and the suitcase sized "Tube Tester" that was taken on every house call, and the stern warnings not to touch THAT!! Loved hanging around their shop and I still have the DeVry correspondence books that they studied to learn their craft stashed in my garage. Cool Stuff!

Sometime later as I was tearing up the asphalt and dirt roads in Nova Scotia, I remember "borrowing" two speakers from the local Drive-In Theatre, remember those? It was SOOO easy to forget they were attached to the window! I proudly had them on the head frame of my old iron bed and wired into a radio at bedside. Many hours spent listening instead of studying as my High School marks can attest to. Well, in all honestly, SOME time was spent chasing the local girls too 😊 Somewhere along the way I acquired a Realistic DX-160 which I still have in my Shack. I cleaned it inside and out last year and it is still chugging along.

Fast forward through the busy years of scuba diving, a couple of parachute jumps, drag racing, some ultralight flying, courting, marriage, trying to earn a living and raising four "wee ones", my interest in radio was renewed by an older cousin-in-law from Cape Breton, VE1XA. On every visit Roy would proudly show me his quite basic radios, simple homemade antennas through which he worked the world on voice and CW, and stacks of QSL cards. I was active in CB at the time, as were most people it seemed, and as I travelled for a living a CB radio was a great tool to have in the car. He convinced me to study and get involved too, so that was my motivation. I contacted the Halifax Amateur Radio Club, met a lot of seriously talented Hams, joined and took their upcoming course in the Fall of 1990 and on April 02, 1991, I became licensed, with the Basic and 12 WPM endorsement, thirty years ago this month, but only half as long as Art VE3AIH!

As an active member of the HARC, I was Editor of the 1993 VE1/VY2 callbook and repeater directory for the Maritime Provinces. Along the way I convinced my wife and firstborn son, Paul, and my Dad, to study and all went on to earn their basic licences and we used VHF quite extensively as a family. Roy became a SK in 2001 and left me shoeboxes full of QSL cards and a Hallicrafter HT-18 which is on the list of "things to restore" when I have time, and it will be a lifelong keepsake.

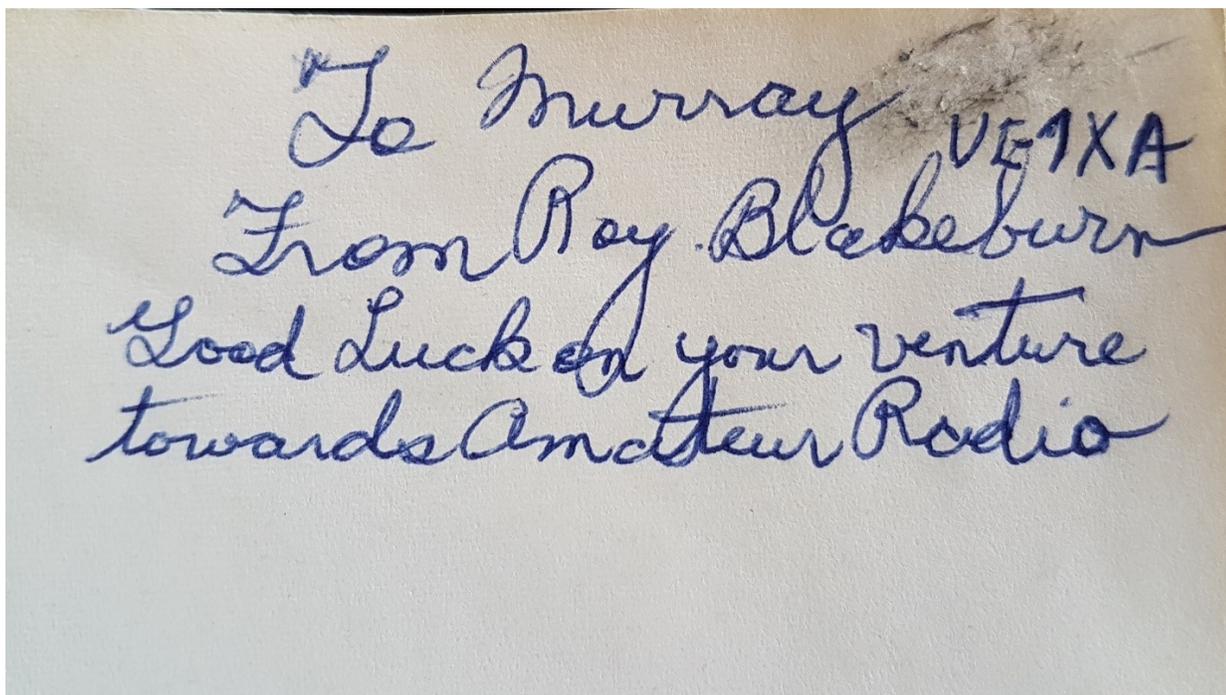
In 2005 life got busy again and I moved to Ontario and remarried, and since the new bride didn't want any "ugly wires or towers", I dutifully kept my station in the mechanical room, safely boxed away. About 2 and a half years ago, she softened her stance, I retired and had more time, and unboxed my gear and joined SVARC. With the help and mentorship of a number of local Hams, most notably Mel, VE3OJN and Steve, VE3EZE, I was brought up to speed on the Hobby and was, and still am, amazed at the online logging software, technical advancements and the digital modes available now. The Hobby had changed considerably, yet somehow stayed the same. My station is fully functional but as with all Hams, will never be finished as there are always new things to explore and new things to try. Currently my station consists of 1991 Model year Yaesu FT-212RH 2M rig, a Yaesu FT-991A all mode radio, an FT-300DR dual band, an FT-400 dual band, and an FT-2DR HT along with a "close to antique" Realistic PRO-2020 scanner and DX-160 Receiver. I also still have my original Kenwood TS-850SAT HF radio which is out for repair at the moment. As a Covid Project in 2020, I self studied and passed the exam for my Advanced Ticket. That only served to show me how much I still don't know! Currently, I have been experimenting with FT-8 and occasionally with WIRES-X. I have held the following callsigns and unless I move again, this will likely be my last. VE1MCM, VE1LJ and VE3XLJ.

BTW, I fly a drone now as one of my current hobbies and it is well suited for placing paracord for antenna installations. Keep that in mind!

'73 and thanks to all for your collective help getting me "restarted" in the hobby!

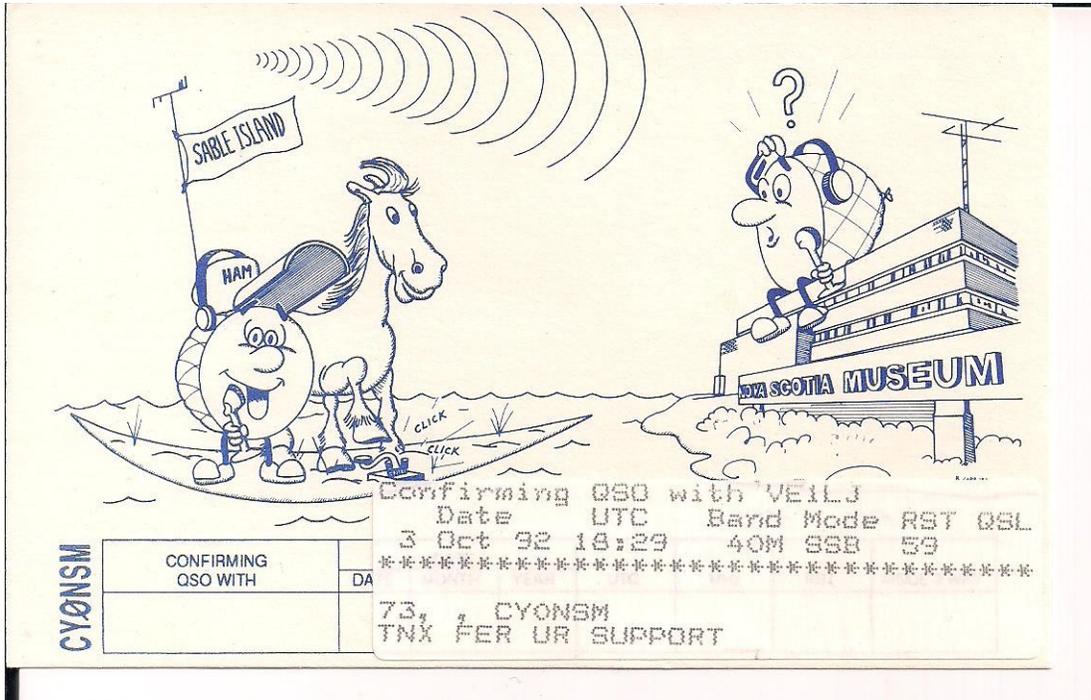
Murray, VE3XLJ

A keepsake from my Mentor, VE1XA from 1990



To Murray VE1XA
From Roy Blackburn
Good Luck on your venture
towards Amateur Radio

This is likely my favourite QSL card. HARC has a strong relationship with the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic and four of our members mounted an expedition to Sable Island in 1992 and I was lucky enough to make contact on 40M one day!



Sable Island, Nova Scotia, Canada
 43°57'N 59°55'W

CYØNSM

Sable Island is a 44-km-long sand bar located in the Atlantic Ocean, 270 km east of Halifax, Nova Scotia. It lies in the path of most storms that track up the Atlantic coast of North America. The island, known as the Graveyard of the Atlantic, has claimed over 250 shipwrecks since 1583. Families that lived on the island between 1801 and 1958 were involved with the life-saving stations. With modern technology there has only been one shipwreck since 1947.

The island is one of the few restricted areas in Canada. In early days this was to stop the plunder of shipwrecks. Now it is to protect the island's fragile ecosystems. The island is currently populated by personnel at the weather station and visiting scientists. A herd of over 200 wild Sable Island horses, descended from French horses left there after the expulsion of the Acadians, roam the island free as the wind. Although oil deposits are believed to be beneath the island, all drilling takes place offshore.

This expedition was made in association with the exhibit *Sable Island: A Story of Survival*, produced by the Nova Scotia Museum, which has travelled across Canada and will now tour Nova Scotia. Our team talked directly to visitors and students at the exhibit about life and work on this beautiful and fragile island. Since people are unable to visit the island, our team brought the island to them. *Thank you for your contact.*

73, Wayne VE1CBK, Martha VE1LE, Gary VE1RGB and Ken VE1RU



For immediate release:

April 20, 2021 –

The **Caribbean Emergency and Weather Net** ([CEWN](#)) has been providing round-the-clock coverage during the La Soufriere volcanic eruption on the island of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Several neighbouring islands are also being affected by the disaster.

When responding to disasters and emergencies such as this, the CEWN utilizes 3.815 MHz LSB and 7.188 MHz LSB. CEWN is requesting that Radio Amateurs not involved in the volcano response to keep these frequencies clear.

— *Thanks to Ira Harris, VP2EIH and the ARRL News*

A site that was in a publication sent to me by ED, VE3EAH

<http://www.cidx.ca/>

Canadian International DX Club
P.O. Box 67063-Lemoyne
St-Lambert, Quebec
Canada J4R 2T8
E-mail: cidxclub@yahoo.com
Web: www.cidx.ca

Certificate No.

Date

St. Lawrence Seaway Award

The Ontario DX Association

is pleased to certify that

_____ has submitted satisfactory evidence of having conducted two-way communication with Canadian Amateur Radio Stations in accordance with the rules of the Award Committee.

Seaway Award

Requirements: Ten (10) contacts in different locations with VE stations along the route of the St. Lawrence Seaway. Of the 10 required, one (1) must be in each of the following areas: Thunder Bay, Greater Toronto, Greater Montreal and Greater Quebec City. The remaining six (6) may be from any municipality located along the route.

Date: Any contact since July, 1950.

Band and Mode: Any band or mode, mixed or otherwise.

Just curious if anyone in the Club has earned these Awards or is working towards them?? Let us know on the Monday night net. See RAC Web page for full details.



Certificate No.



Date

Trans-Canada Award

The
ONTARIO DX ASSOCIATION

is pleased to certify that



_____ has submitted satisfactory evidence of having conducted two-way communication with Canadian Amateur Radio stations according to the rules of the Trans-Canada Award committee.



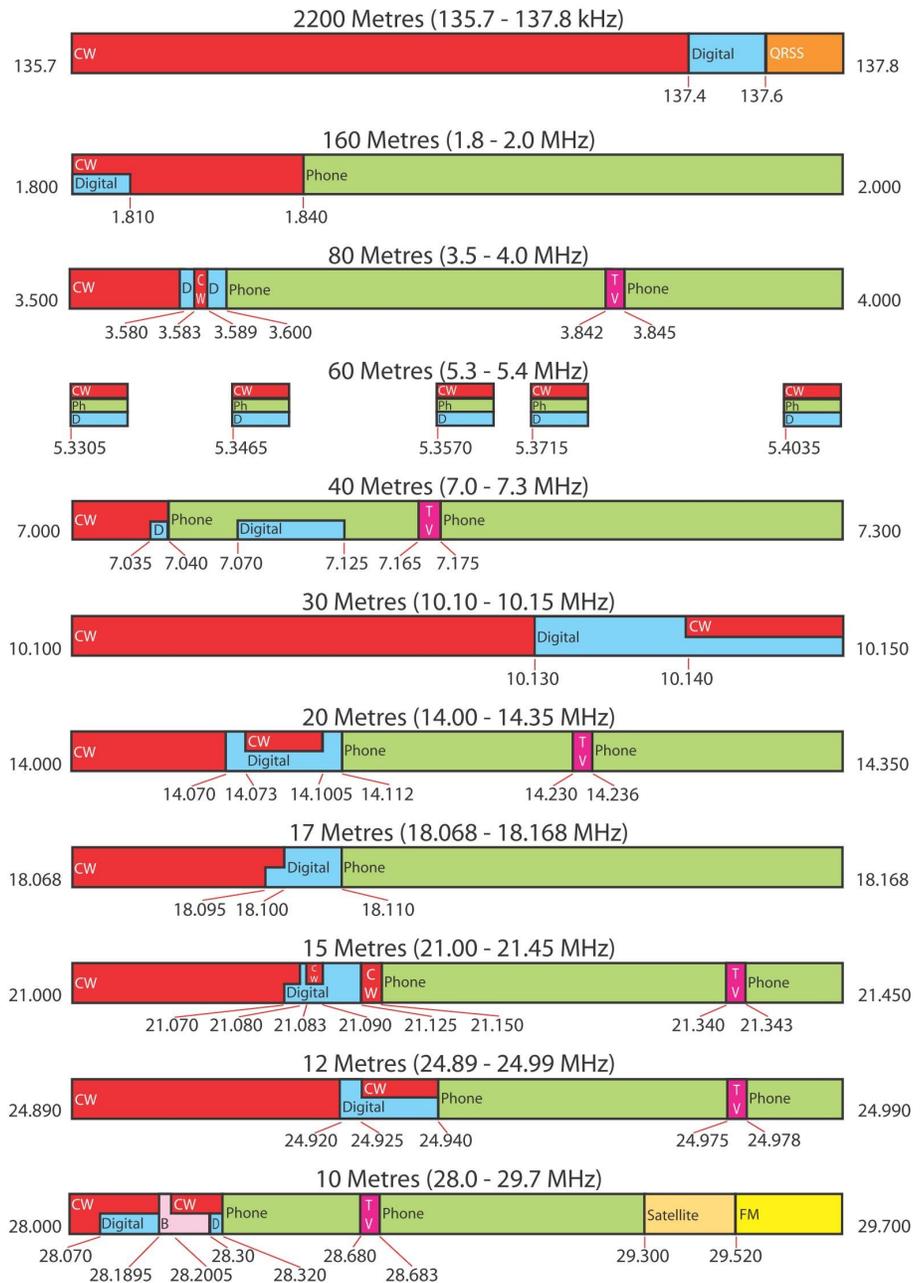


Canadian 0 - 30MHz Band Plan

Effective Date:
December 1, 2015

1. This is a simplified version of the official RAC Band Plan. Not all permissible modes/activities are represented.
2. LSB is used on 160, 80 and 40m. USB is used on all other bands that permit SSB, including 60m.
3. Consult various online resources for detailed information on what digital modes are used.
4. Maximum bandwidth permitted on 2200m is 100 Hz. Maximum power is 1 Watt EIRP.
5. Refer to the IC and RAC websites for full details before operating on the new 60m channels.
6. Remember not to allow your signal to spill over into adjoining band segments when operating close to the edges. During major weekend contests, activity in certain modes can spill over into other segments. Operators should avoid NCDXF beacons on 14.100, 18.110, 21.150, 24.930 and 28.200 MHz.
7. This graphic is a living document and will be reviewed and updated periodically to reflect changes in the band plans and operating habits.

www.rac.ca



Key		
■ CW	CW	■ FM
■ QR	CW QRSS	■ T V
■ Ph	Phone	■ B
■ D	Digital	■ S
	Beacons	Satellite